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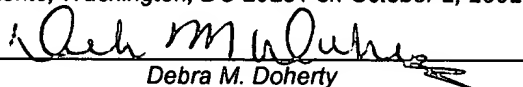
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Harry Zscheeg
SERIAL NO.: 09/530,003
FILED: April 21, 2000
FOR: EXPANDED STENT AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING SAME
EXAMINER: Julian W. Woo
ART UNIT: 3731

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10-1602
B
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on October 2, 2002.


Debra M. Doherty

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

AMENDMENT

RECEIVED
OCT 10 2002
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

In response to the official action of April 2, 2002, please amend the application as follows:

Add the following abstract.

Abstract

An expandable stent for insertion into a body lumen has a generally cylindrical lattice structure formed from wall segments that intersect and with some of the intersections being interrupted to enhance the flexibility of the stent. The wall segments associated with the interrupted portions are formed to have an outward flare such that when the stent is in a curved configuration, the wall segments will not project radially inwardly into the stent lumen, thereby avoiding obstruction to flow through the lumen.